

**August 26, 2009**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Today, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) released the following statement on the passing of U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy, who died on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the age of 77.

"The country and the United States Congress have lost an important leader. Senator Ted Kennedy fought for the rights of children and served as the voice for so many who needed assistance. He made it his mission to ensure that all Americans had the right to a better a future and championed great causes like the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. His reputation as the 'Liberal Lion' of the Senate was warranted but Senator Kennedy had an uncanny ability to reach across the aisle and extend his hand to Republicans and Independents to work together to come to a bi-partisan solution in critical matters throughout our history. We mourn the loss of Senator Kennedy, but we will never forget the enduring impact he has left on our nation and each one of us as citizens of the United States of America."

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